Marcy's "Revenge," Cleo's Newfound Freedom, and the Beach City Dance Party

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by lefemmerouge

Summary

Marcy and Bonnie are off the hook for their "crimes" of entering Earth airspace without authorization after the conclusion by the panel. While Bonnie is breathing a sigh of relief, Marcy wants to strike back at the Earthlings for what they did to her and her girlfriend. Steven is first in the line of fire. Will Marcy's emotions get the better of her or will restrain herself before she tries to turn Steven into a vampire? Will she listen to Bonnie's reasoned pleas to stop her emotion-laden "revenge scheme"? Whatever the result, secrets will be revealed and people will be brought together in this final chapter of the saga of unlikely loose "alliance" against evildoers, who will go their own ways, as the world and universe are before them, coming together in a celebration of peace...

Notes

This is the last fic of this series! Thanks everyone for reading up this point. I really appreciate it. I took a while to write this due to it its length and I struggled with how to tie up the loose ends in this series. This fic also sets the stage for my next (and upcoming) series, following the adventures of Cleo and Connie. The Marcy-Steven confrontation at the beginning may be a little overboard, but it's interesting to think about what a fight between both of them would be like, which I showed a bit of in this story. As always, comments are welcome and appreciated.

Update #1 on 2/8/25: The Cleo and Connie series never happened. It may never see the light of day because I have many other fics to write instead. Sorry about that! However, I have only one fic, which spins off from this series, including: "Rise of the Scarlet Wildcat" (about the relations between Catra, Adora, and Pearl, and Catra shacking up with Carmen). I plan to hopefully, write more spinoffs in the future.

Update #2 on 5/13/25: I cross-posted this on Squidge World. It was revised there with changes to dialogue, wording, description, overwriting the previous flawed text. The original version, without any revisions, can be read on Wattpad. I may actually write that Cleo/Connie series, either as a series or one-shot, if I have time.

See the end of the work for more notes

Bonnie yawned, awakened to the smell of sizzling pancakes on the griddle, and a kiss from Marcy. Both were wary of the planet's inhabitants. Steven smiled back and waved. While Bonnie tried to comfort her, Marcy pushed her away, saying she needed to deal with “this” on her own. She became invisible and Bonnie face-palmed herself, warning an aloof Steven.

"Watch out, Marcy can turn invisible and *likely will attack you*, even though you did nothing wrong…for revenge after yesterday's trial...I mean *panel*...so be prepared."

He quickly turned the griddle off and prepared himself for battle. Suddenly, something ripped his shirt off his chest, with the shirt pulled the floor and the reddish color beginning to disappear from his shirt. Watching this unfold, he tried to grab the shirt back, but it unexpectedly wrapped around his body, putting him a bind. Marcy, still invisible, picked up Steven, opened the door, and threw him down to the beach below. His loud, and pained, scream woke up many of his friends sleeping inside, while Lion and Mihos snoozed.

Connie, Cleo, Pearl, Catra, Adora, Garnet, and Amethyst groggily came outside the house to see what all the commotion was about. The shirt, which had enveloped his body, dropped to the sand. Marcy reappeared, transforming into a huge copperhead snake with huge fangs. Steven cowered, readying his shield and pink powers in a defensive posture. Despite his jabs at her, she remained nimble, easily deflecting his blows. He put a bubble around himself, hoping it would protect him for now. Instead, she picked up the bubble, put it in her mouth. She planned to break through and bite him, with her fangs turning him into a vampire. She vowed this would be the proper revenge for what they had “been through.” Bonnie ran out to Marcy, threw up her hands and stamped on the ground, attempting to stop this heinous act.

"Stop this at once, Marcy! These people *aren't* here to hurt us. They only want to help."

Hearing Bonnie's words, Marcy shapeshifted into her normal form, causing Steven to go flying across the beach and collapse under a mountain of sand. She hugged Bonnie and started crying, saying she was "sorry" and did not know what came over her. Bonnie put her arms around Marcy, saying she forgave her, while encouraging her to apologize to Steven after giving her a peck on the cheek. Ashamed for her behavior, she walked over to a stunned Steven and helped him up from the sand. To *his astonishment*, she expressed regret for her behavior.

"Steven, I didn't mean to attack you…me and Bonnie have been through a lot...and I released that aggression on you…that wasn't right…you had *nothing* to do with what happened to us."

Chuckling a little and attempting to make light of being attacked by a half-vampire, half-demon shapeshifting woman, Steven told her he did not mind roughhousing, but intense fighting was a little much for this time in the morning. She agreed with him and they shook hands. Pearl yelled down to him. "Steven, put on a shirt, for gosh sakes!" and threw him one of his classic red shirts with a yellow star in the middle.

Putting it on, Marcy groused that she *did not* like to "see men's chests." Bonnie asked her why and she said that the "jerk" she used to date had ruined them for her, while admitting her occasional sexual attraction to men. Neither Steven nor anyone watching them knew what

she meant, although Bonnie understood that the jerkwad *was Ash*, Marcy's ex-boyfriend. Bonnie once had a boyfriend, Cream Puff, as well, but he never came up in their conversations.

As all three of them began walking inside, Garnet stood in front of the door, blocking entry inside. Amethyst and Pearl examined Steven, asking if he was okay. He rolled his eyes and declared "yes, I'm fine!"

Marcy and Bonnie were just as annoyed. Garnet sat down in a meditative pose. She hoped that her words would cause their dispute to dissipate. "I don't know *why* you two are sparring, but...I have something to admit. You know that panel, the pseudo-trial yesterday? I…was the Chief Justice and…"

Amethyst then piped in. "...and me as a councilor. Lapis, Peridot, Utena, and Anthy were councilors too! We wanted to make sure that the planet's new visitors, Marcy, and Bonnie, *were treated right*...and we won! Instead of fighting, maybe you should kiss and make up."

Bonnie and Marcy thanked Garnet and Amethyst profusely for saving them from that panel. Both gems gladly embraced them. Marcy began floating into the air, with Bonnie in her arms. Adora looked at Marcy with wide eyes, telling her that her shapeshifting abilities were "super cool," reminiscent of the time she had been entranced by Carmen Sandiego.

Uncomfortable with the sudden praise of her "powers," her light blue-grey skin became a little lighter in the cheeks, as blood rushed to that area, and she gave Bonnie big smooch on the mouth. They slowly descended to the porch, both refreshed, although a bit hungry, as neither had eaten breakfast. Like clockwork, Pearl and Adora brought their heads (and lips) together. Connie and Cleo looked like they were about to do the same.

At that exact moment, Steven's dad, Greg, blissfully unaware, came around the rock outcropping, excited to see his son again, hoping to do some father-son bonding. Then he saw it. Embarrassed by the public displays of affection, he nearly turned tail and ran. Steven sprinted out to him, telling him that everyone had been following Amethyst's advice. Greg mumbled about Amethyst meddling in people''s affairs *again*. Just as he spoke those words, Amethyst's whip bound his arms, pulling him closer. She snickered, telling him he "couldn't escape."

As she pulled him across part of the beach, he struggled and bellowed, demanding she let him go. She did so at once, having no intention of hurting him, and only wanted to mess with him. Not long after, Greg stomped his foot on the sand, lamenting the situation. "Amethyst, you are doing it again! I came over here to spend some quality time with my son and *you encourage* people to kiss and make up? Seriously! I guess you won't be part of my band."

Marcy's ears perked up. Hearing that word brought back positive memories, like the time she had her own short-lived band, Marceline and the Scream Queens, managed by Bonnie, and the times she played solo concerts as a musician across the Land of Ooo. She scurried over to a perplexed Greg and began prattling on.

"Band, you say? I LOVE music. I have this hella cool guitar made from a family heirloom… an ax…or I did before we were arrested by those military guys in that place you call

Yokohama."

Almost on cue, Garnet threw her the Ax Bass, Marcy thanking her once again. Taking her favorite bone pick out of her pocket, somehow not confiscated by the EDF soldiers, she began playing a song, Bonnie softly sang along in this duet.

Gentle dance with you/

I just wanna gently dance with you/

I know the others are rough and soft/

And I got the blues/

I just wanna gently dance with you/

Steven, Greg, Connie, Cleo, Pearl, Catra, Adora, Garnet, and Amethyst were impressed. Her musical abilities gave Steven an idea that eluded everyone else. He wanted to host an event which would bring the world together after the so-called "Yokohama incident." Turning to Marcy, he began babbling about his proposal, in hopes of attracting her interest.

"Hey, Marcy, how about we have a concert here in Beach City? You can play your songs, me and my dad can play together, Peri and Lapis can play something, too. We can broadcast the whole thing across the world. We'll have a grand ole' time...together!"

Bonnie was unsure, since they had only met briefly "met," if that could even be called a meeting, and the fact that Earth's residents nearly killed them both in an effort of "self-defense," resulting a terrifying near-death experience. Marcy excitedly jumped at the opportunity. She strummed her guitar, singing her answer: "YES!"

Greg grinned and looked content. He promised to try and bring Sadie Killer and the Suspects to this concert, and if not, then he would come instead. Preparations for the concert began, with everyone playing an important part, especially those who would performing before the town's residents and the world. Cleo shook her head at this whole extravaganza, and muttered, "Oh brother."

A few months passed, from the blazing days of July and August to the cool days of September. Adora, Catra, and Pearl returned to the Nile Galaxy through the Pink Dimension, journeying across the cosmos with Lars and his merry band (Pappy, Rhodonite, RT, and Fluorite). Bismuth continued to tour with Sadie Killer & the Suspects, a band managed by Greg, while Steven had fun adventures and hi-jinks with Amethyst. Garnet taught meditation classes to the town's residents. Connie and Cleo had fun days on the beach, whether in Beach City, Ocean Town, or any of the surrounding cities, with Cleo enjoying her newfound freedom on Earth.

The day of the concert, October 8, 2020, had arrived. People and all beings celebrated it around the world as a day that those women who loved other women, in whatever form they came in, whether Gems, humans, or something else, came together, whether in the

Principality of Eastern Australia, the Indigenous Republic of Aotearoa, or the Unified Australian Islands. Those in any of the other 74 nations across the world, listed in the WPA Information Bureau's absurdly named pamphlet, "What is the World Parliamentary Assembly (WPA) anyway? And why should I care?," proudly commemorated the day, while some bigoted people grumbled.

The stage on the beach had been set up, constructed with the help of Garnet, Amethyst, Steven, and Pearl. The latter decided to visit Earth again with Catra and Adora. All three of them were in a throuple, which they liked to call a triad. All three of them had become more intimate while traversing the Nile Galaxy, learning more about each other, new planets, cultures, and civilizations. Like any relationship, problems cropped up from time to time, and they were talk to each other to resolve any issues. Each person in this relationship respected each other so much that jealousy has become non-existent. No one had secrets and all three of them intensely loved each other.

Based on what she knew about them, Pearl guessed that Peri, Lapis, Utena, and Anthy (LUPA) might have a similar arrangement as a "quad," but she did not know *for sure*, since she had not seen them for long time.

Cleo's groan pierced the air like a deer being shot with a poison-tipped arrow. Connie had taken away her hoverboard, stashing it in the Beach House. She bemoaned her supposed "mistreatment":

"Come on, Connie...legs are so slow!...can I use my hoverboard...please...pretty *please*."

Connie shook her head and was unwavering. Cleo complained. Not wanting a fight, she gave in. She walked off in a huff, deeply worrying Marcy. Although she had only stayed on Earth for a brief time with Bonnie, she knew Cleo better than when they first crashed there in June when their spaceship was shot down by the EDF's missile defenses. They had become friends, although her Cleo's appearance sometimes made her shiver. As she moped on the porch of the Beach House, Marcy floated over and tried to take her out of this funk. "Hey, buddy, what's wrong...Connie is just trying to be..."

She stopped speaking when she saw tears streaming down Cleo's face. She admitted that she missed her friends in Mayet, and her dad, 30,000 years in the past. As she began to float into the air and glow pink, Marcy tightly wrapped her arms around her body. For some reason, this comforted her, making her feel at home. Her powers receded, just before she sucked the electrical energy out of the Beach House, and she fell, appearing virtually lifeless, into Marcy's arms. Setting her down on the soft beach sand, Connie and Steven came quickly to her side. Garnet, Pearl, Adora, and Amethyst would have helped, but Steven told them to stay behind.

While they did so, all four remained worried due to Steven's past "pink outbursts," which had not been a problem when they were in the Nile Galaxy, but has started up again in the last few months. Before Connie could open her mouth, Cleo, a bit dazed, explained why she had floated in the air, understating her abilities. "Sorry for scaring you...When I think of home, I glow pink and can suck out all the electrical energy of an object or person...it hasn't occurred since I fought Octavian with you all those months ago, but it cropped up again. I didn't tell

you because I thought I had found my center and a new place here...but I can never forget where I came from, no matter how hard I try."

Steven and Connie hugged her, promising to support her through whatever she needed. As Cleo stood up, declaring she would strive to "solve" this "problem," one day, Steven sheepishly laughed. He added, "make sure you don't do that pink glow thing when the concert is on...that would be *such a bummer*." Howling at his remark, Cleo asked him one simple question. "Can I bring my friends...or *just a friend*...you know, from Mayet, to this concert?"

Nodding at her request, she jumped up and down in joy, saying she would be back in a "jiffy." Handing her crown to Connie, she then dived into the crown-portal. Once inside she moved toward the first inter-dimensional gateway on her right. She passed a nearby signpost titled "Akila's room ♥ ♥," written above the spot where she kissed the sign when trying on some red lipstick which she "borrowed" from Connie without telling her, like the time she stole Akila's clothes. After staring at the sign for a second, she snapped out of it, and walked through the gateway to the Mayet's P.Y.R.A.M.I.D. campus.

She had been sneaking away there at least once a week, especially at night, after Connie fell asleep. This time, when she popped her head in, Akila told her to come back later. She ignored this until she saw Callie. Acting rashly, she firmly grabbed Akila's hand, pulling her inside the portal, whirling them back to the crown-portal dimension. Hitting the "ground," with a thump, Akila, and about to excoriate Cleo on her recklessness, she remained in awe of everything inside the dimension itself. Cleo quickly to covered up the sign she had created for Mayet, standing nervously in front of it, blocking it from view. Not noticing that Cleo was "protecting" anything, Akila taunted her about why she had pulled her from Mayet as it seemed unusual and uncharacteristic of her. "Why'd you bring me here, *cutie*? Are you gonna tell me you love me *again*?"

Cleo rolled her eyes. She came within a few inches of Akila's face. "Everytime I come to visit I declare my love to you...I wanted to invite you to a concert my friends are having on Earth."

Akila's ears perked up. She enjoyed music more than anything. Anyone could see that from her continued man-crush on Zedge, despite the fact that he tried to kill Cleo when he was under Octavian's mind control. Akila smiled and said something that astounded Cleo. She knew what this newish "friend" had done to her partner. "Can Callie come along too? I'm getting to know her better now...and she *isn't a bad person*."

Cleo guffawed at such a request. She had completely forgotten about Callie. She had a better person in her life now, Connie, who did not try and score romantic points with her, like Callie. She turned up her nose. "Nah. I don't want her to come. I'm unsure what I should think about her...having her would confuse stuff *too much*. She can stay on Mayet. That is where someone like her *belongs*."

Akila understood and did not ask again. She did not want to go back and inform Brian about this concert. Even though both remained friends, any inkling of romantic attachment between them had evaporated away. Akila wanted to take a break from dating and romance, with Cleo as a huge, gaping exception to that self-created "rule." Just before they were about to exit the crown-portal dimension, she pulled Cleo aside, surprising her such a bold action. She grumbled about what she had gone through on Mayet after Cleo's departure.

"Do you…sometimes, feel *inadequate*? Sure, I have Brian, Khensu, and the rest of those at P.Y.R.A.M.I.D. but *it's different* without you there…"

Akila started sobbing. "Can you *PLEASE* come back, Cleo? I *NEED* you!"

Cleo hugged her and whispered to her. "It's okay…let's talk about this later. I'd like to see this concert. That could make you feel better. Does that sound good?"

Akila nodded and clasped Cleo's hands. Excitedly, both bounded out of the portal and landed perfectly on a blanket sitting on top of the soft sand. The first show was about to begin. No one knew who the next guest, or guests, would be. While the Gems guessed it would be Steven, it could be anyone, whether Marcy and Bonnie, the LUPA grouping, or someone else entirely.

Steven, the MC of the event, walked onto the stage to some applause, beginning the show. "Hello Beach City! Thank you everyone for coming and for all those tuning in across the world. There will be several performances tonight and everyone will be singing original songs, I am happy to say. Without further ado, I'd like to present our first guest, LUPA!"

All smiles, these two Gems and two magical warriors walked onto the stage, each announcing themselves to the eager audience. "Hi, I'm Lapis." "I'm Utena." "I'm Peri." "And I'm Anthy."

Utena stepped forward and screamed, "WE ARE LUPA!" Utena sang the first verse:

It began with an epic fight/

I freed Anthy from her chains/

That filled me with delight/

But it did not stop the pains/

Anthy joined in, voicing the song's next section:

I cried when my brother's swords hurt my love/

I thought she had left the world for good/

But the arena was imaginary, dissolved by true love/

I found my dear Utena in the wood/

Despite the fact the song was from the heart, some of the audience saw it as lackluster, and turned away. As such, the next verses, including Utena and Anthy singing together, had been a bit obscured. When Lapis and Peri began a duet together it caught everyone off guard.

We met Anthy and Utena in house in the "thicket"/

In no time at all, we all became conversant/

When we left for missions, we realized we missed it/

Later we returned and were fervent/

The song went on like this for a while. Although not the best song, it expressed how Utena, Anthy, Peri, and Lapis felt about each other. While some of those in the audience did not like the song, Steven and the Gems cheered LUPA on. They wanted to remain supportive, even when some of them were more down on the song, like Garnet and Amethyst.

After Utena, Anthy, Peri, and Lapis left the stage, Steven came after them. He announced that he and his dad would be performing next. This had been such a well-kept secret that not even the other Crystal Gems had known that he would be performing at all! Steven reached behind a curtain and grabbed his guitar, followed by Greg coming onto the stage, holding his own awesome guitar. They would play an instrumental number, meaning there were no lyrics. For whatever reason, as they began to play ferociously, some people started grooving to the tune. Connie began a funky, dorky dance and invited Cleo to join her. She cheerfully accepted while Akila chatted it up with the original Crystal Gems, acting like her usual bubbly self. The music suddenly got even more intense when Marcy floated onto platform, jamming alongside Steven, Greg, and even Bonnie, who hummed a simple tune.

Not long after, they were joined by Bismuth, the truly unannounced guest, who pulled out her drums and drumsticks. While having Sadie Killer and the Suspects would have been great, they were unable to travel to Beach City, due to earlier commitments for a music tour through the Great Scandinavian Republic. With a sick beat going, Connie and Cleo enthusiastically danced on the sand together, joined by Pearl, Adora, Catra, Peri, Lapis, Anthy, and Utena. The other townspeople watched wild-eyed, joining in one by one, turning the concert into a big dance party. After everything they had been through, this event provided the break everyone needed.

This peace was short-lived. There were gasps from the crowd after an enveloping blue light covered their faces. It came from an inter-dimensional gateway. This concerned Steven and the other Gems who prepared themselves for the worst, while Adora had the opposite reaction, chuckling. She knew exactly what it was: her friends from Etheria. They had finally made it! Since she did not travel back to Etheria, she had the clever idea of bringing them to Earth to celebrate with her. After the gateway closed, three people stepped out, led by a lilac haired woman in her 20s. She cleared her throat and began to speak. "SURPRISE! Adora invited us to come, so I hope it's okay."

Steven yelled back. "It's fine! Come join the party!"

Apta came bounding to the stage's edge, with her friend, Fuma, in tow, while Bow sauntered out of the portal. Adora shouted and waved to him. Catra saw him walking her direction and rolled her eyes, muttering to herself, "not arrow boy again." Adora smacked her on the back and told her to "cool her jets' because Bow was "cool." She moaned and accepted Adora's logic, this time. Even so, she remained skeptical of him, resenting his testimony against her in the trial brought by the victorious Princess Alliance, where he recounted how she had kidnapped Glimmer and himself at the Princess Prom. While she knew Bow had been right,

admitting his charges *were correct*, his testimony had been key in her conviction, leading to her imprisonment in the Northern Reach.

She was only freed after Apta spearheaded a revolution which drained the princesses (apart from Fuma) of their elemental magic, accompanied by revolts by the populace. The princesses remained only as figureheads, or even advisers, with their royal realms fading away the second their magical powers had become mute, with the long work of democracy beginning. Although she harbored a dislike of Apta, she remained thankful for her help. After working with her on "experiments," Apta had encouraged her to come to Earth, so she could reconcile with Adora. She then traveled through a portal which Apta had constructed with her own two hands and prehensile hair.

After Bow and the others on Etheria learned that Apta had let Catra "escape" to Earth, they expressed their disappointment, reminding her of the awful things that she had done, especially to Adora, and worrying about her safety. However, under the new arrangement in Etheria, they had no power to compel her to bring Catra back. She claimed the portal was "broken." She *blatantly lied* about this to them because she saw the relationship Catra and Adora had and knew that if Catra returned to Etheria it would *emotionally wound* Adora.

Walking up to Adora, Bow shook his head when he spotted Catra. He pulled an oblivious Adora aside. "Uh, Adora, *are you sure* about Catra? Don't you remember what she did? I mean there was a trial and everything...and she *hurt you*."

Adora scoffed at his questions. She explained how Catra had changed and said that Catra was "one of her girlfriends." Bow bewilderingly stared at her. He couldn't believe what he was hearing. *How* could it be true? She realized that Bow did not get it, so she made it even simpler for him to understand. "So, I have *two* partners: Catra and Pearl."

She followed this up, adding, "we have our disagreements and disputes from time to time, but are working them out day-to-day. I love Catra and Pearl equally…and dearly."

This took Bow aback. He knew that Adora had a relationship with Pearl, but he had no idea that Catra was part of it too. Remembering how his dads had accepted him all that time ago after he came out to them as a master archer and rebellion fighter, he realized that accepting her relationships was the right thing to do. He hugged Adora and yelled. "I support this!" As her cheeks became flushed and felt warm, she scampered back to Catra, nervously dancing with her on the sand, while Pearl talked with Akila at length about Mayet.

Meanwhile, Apta approached Peri, who came toward her with glee. Although in distinct parts of the universe, both had become fast friends due to their shared love for technology and general dislike of people. They began going through all the technical aspects of the inventions they had created, a nerdy discussion which everyone accepted and expected. Amethyst looked at Peri and said under breath, "that's *my nerd* alright."

Bow wandered around the party, feeling aimless until he saw someone he knew: Connie. He waved hello. He raised his eyebrows when he saw Cleo. He had not seen *her* before, piquing his curiosity even more. Nervous about talking to a new person, he took Connie aside so he could ask her a question. "Hey, Connie, who is this girl you are dancing with? I don't remember her from the time you and the other Gems came to Etheria…by accident."

Talking in a muffled voice, she giggled, telling him "why don't you find out," and pushed Bow toward Cleo, proceeding to bump into him.

Staring up at him, since was a bit taller, she outstretched her hand. "Hi. I'm Cleo. Nice to meet you...*whoever you are*. What's your name?"

Bow introduced himself and told the story of how he knew Connie, Adora, and a lot of the people at the party. Cleo nodded. During this tale, he mentioned Glimmer, describing her as a "short, stocky girl with pastel pink hair which is sparkling purple underneath," while sadly noting that she had disappeared to an unknown world.

Cleo's eyes opened with wonder. “Another world? I can take you there! I have this portal thing in my crown, thanks to some funky thing *that guy* did by accidentally kissing my hair or something," pointing to Steven on the stage. She cried out to Connie: "Hey, Conn, can you hold this crown for a sec. I'd like to do something for *this guy*."

Wanting to be amiable to Cleo, she complied and held the crown in her hands. Cleo pulled Bow inside the crown dimension, while he worried about what would happen next. Pacing around, she came across a sign which reading "Las Vistas," with the words "place of cute girls and weird monsters" scrawled below it.

Nervous about Bow seeing what she had written, she stood in front of the sign, and directed Bow to the portal. When he asked how she knew about it she confidently asserted, "oh yeah, I go there *all the time*, when Connie is asleep. It's fun to go to all these different worlds. And I don't even need a spaceship!" She came close to Bow and asked him if "he was ready." He uttered one word in response: "yes."

All Bow could see around him was a desolate wasteland and a decaying city. It reminded him, in some ways, of areas the Horde had destroyed on Etheria, now in ruins. More adept at using the portal than in the past, Cleo knew how it worked. If she stayed outside of the gateways for too long, it would be close permanently, stranding her on a planet, something which she wanted to avoid at all costs. Glimmer and a girl with purple hair, Kipo, ran their direction, receiving her with open arms, in an occasion which had become very frequent. "Hey, Cleo, what brings you here this time? And who is this friend you brought with you?"

Before she could answer that, Glimmer's face went completely pale. She never expected to see Bow again in a million years. Crying uncontrollably, she embraced Bow, and only made out a few words, "I'm *so sorry* for leaving you...and everyone else on Etheria." He hugged Glimmer back, saying to her: "it's fine. I get why you left. I'm glad you are okay." He then examined her outfit, remembering fondly what she had worn as a princess, then a Queen. He jested her about her new look. She proudly declared she had chosen the outfit herself. While Cleo liked seeing two old friends, Bow and Glimmer, catch-up, she wanted them to hurry back.

"I don't want to break up this reunion, but we need to get back *before* the inter-dimensional gateway closes. So, Kipo and Glimmer...do you like parties? Because there is one on Earth where Adora and *a bunch* of other people are."

Glimmer heard the name Adora and pleaded with Kipo that they go. While Kipo had wanted to do something else, she agreed to come along, excited to meet new people. Cleo held Bow's hand, while Bow held the hand of Glimmer, who clasped the hand of Kipo. They all stepped inside the gateway, which closed behind them. Entering the crown-portal dimension, Kipo was amazed. Glimmer *teased* Cleo about her sign for Las Vistas. In order to ensure that no one would humiliate her further, she quickly pulled Kipo, Glimmer, and Bow through the portal's opening to Earth, all of them flying out at great speeds and onto the sand.

They were greeted with cheers. No one had seen Kipo before, so Glimmer absurdly bowed, and hoped to wow them with her "special friend," with their relationship developing leaps and bounds from when they had been strangers, then friends. "Hiya! This is Kipo. She is a wonderful, *hella cool* person with mad survival and leadership skills...and is the *best person* ever...oh and she is my girlfriend...thought I should mention that."

The mouths of Mermista, Sea Hawk, Spinnerella, Netossa, and Frosta, who had come out of Apta's dimensional gateway, were hanging open in shock. They had *never* expected that Glimmer would have such a cute girl as her partner, her companion. Frosta did not get it, but Mermista and Sea Hawk, Netossa and Spinnerella fully understood it. In some ways, all of them had assumed she would get together with Bow, or even Adora, although neither transpired in the end. Perhaps, in an alternate universe, Bow and Glimmer would be together, but not in this one. Even so, Glimmer continued to have some feelings for Bow, although she had not sorted them out yet and what he meant to her.

With Steven, Greg, and Marcy playing their guitars, Bonnie singing softly, and Bismuth hitting the drums, the beach was a suitable place to have a concert and a rocking party. Those from Etheria, Mayet, Vevoson, Las Vistas, the Land of Ooo, and Earth were in the same place, brought together for the first, and likely, the last, time, ever. It served as the proper end point of the "alliance" between these heroes who had faced the Horde, the antics of V.I.L.E., the deception of A.C.M.E., the soldiers of Octavian, the army and fleet of the Great Diamond Authority, cackling Peridots, and all the others who had challenged them along the way.

Some were not attending, however. Carmen and her partner, Julia, were not present, and neither were their many friends in the state of Japan. None of them, cared about shindigs like this one and were mostly out of the loop with all those in Beach City, even for Carmen and Julia, who were great friends with Lapis, Utena, Peri, and Anthy. Similarly, Lars and the Off Colors did not appear, dedicated to their continued exploration of the Nile Galaxy. All of those gathered would have been shocked to found out that a young girl, Melty, who lived on the floating city, more accurately a fleet, called Gargantia, had a crush on Lars. Neither she, nor those on the *Pascal Magi*, were there either, none whom knew about the party. Similarly, a samurai named "Jack," had returned to his Earth, dedicated to his quest to return to the past and defeat Aku once and for all, saving the world from evil, would have eschewed such a party.

As the sun set on the horizon, the townspeople and the musicians began to leave. Kipo and Glimmer wished everyone the best, while Bow, Apta, Fuma, Mermista, Sea Hawk, Spinnerella, Netossa, and Frosta did the same, heading for Etheria, one by one. Before they departed, Kipo, Glimmer, and Bow took a selfie together, sharing the image with each other, so each of them could have a copy, while promising to stay in touch. As Akila began to do

the same, swearing she would remain in good context with those on Earth, a statement which mainly referred to Cleo, and perhaps Pearl, Peri handed her a small crystal stone. She instructed her to plant it in the ground on Mayet.

Once planted, it would grow into a warp pad, allowing for easier connection between their worlds. She smiled and bid everyone adieu. Cleo led Glimmer and Kipo back to Las Vistas, and Akila to Mayet, returned to Earth, then fell asleep in Connie's arms, tired from all the inter-dimensional travel.

While the unlikely alliance against evildoers *had concluded*, outliving its usefulness as the reign of peace had begun in the known universe, with the defeat of various villainous individuals and their groups, challenges remained. The desire of some to be evil, or commit heinous acts, would continue, without a doubt. While some heroes would settle down in this "peace," others would embark upon new adventures in the days, weeks, months, and years to come. These heroes had learned, the hard way, that nothing remains static, not even harmony across the stars...

End Notes

I used the "Marceline" and "Ax Bass" pages from the Adventure Time fandom site, which were helpful in supplying details for this story. The song sung by Marcy is slightly adapted from the original, a song by Evil titled "Slow Dance," which Marcy sang in the episode "Marcy & Hunson." The date I mention there is International Lesbian Day, held on October 8 of every year!.

In this story, Apta stands for Entrapta, while Fuma stands for Perfuma, and Peri for Peridot. They actually didn't come to Etheria by accident, as it is revealed that the Diamonds set up Steven and the others to travel there as shown in "Jack and the Magical Portal", so they could wipe out the fleet of Horde Prime in "For the Honor of Etheria?: Adora's Choice and Jack's Bold Move", but Bow and those on Etheria still think the Crystal Gems arrived there by accident.

The parts of the song Utena and Anthy sing refers to the last events of the anime, while the parts Lapis and Peri sing refers to their first meeting, which occurred sometime before the events of the fic, "Carmen, Pearl, and Adora's Unexpected Sugary Horror". I don't know how warp pads are created, but perhaps Peri knows how to make the warp pad into a planet or something, dunno.

If I was to rewrite this entire fic, I would make it a lot longer, as I feel this fic was a bit too short and could have been done better, but you live and learn!

Works inspired by this one

Rise of the Scarlet Wildcat by lefemmerouge

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